

Test to Stay School Decision Tree

Was the exposure at school or a school-based activity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Close contacts exposed to COVID-19 outside of school are ineligible for Test to Stay Quarantine. Please report to LCHD to determine quarantine options.
Is the school engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting masks regardless of vaccination status?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Close contacts are ineligible for Test to Stay Quarantine.
Are the close contacts asymptomatic?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Please follow the IDPH decision tree for symptomatic students. Symptomatic close contacts are ineligible for Test to Stay Quarantine.
Does your school have the ability to test, document and provide results for unvaccinated/partially vaccinated close contacts for Day 1,3,5, and 7 post exposure?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Close contacts are not eligible for Test to Stay Quarantine if the school is unable to provide testing.*
Does your school have the ability to report both negative and positive COVID-19 test results to the appropriate IDPH reporting system?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Close contacts are not eligible for Test to Stay Quarantine if the school cannot appropriately report test results.
Does your school have parental consent to test close contacts?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Close contacts are not eligible for Test to Stay Quarantine without parental consent for testing at school.
Are the close contacts unvaccinated or partially vaccinated?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Fully vaccinated students are generally not required to quarantine but should test 3–5 days after exposure. LCHD may recommend vaccinated students to participate in a Test to Stay Quarantine or traditional quarantine in the event of an outbreak.
Were both the COVID-19 infected person and the close contacts engaged in consistent and well-fitting mask use during the exposure?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Close contacts are not eligible for Test to Stay Quarantine.
If masks were removed during the exposure, was the close contact and the infected person 6 feet apart?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Close contacts at less than 6 feet without masking will not be eligible for Test to Stay Quarantine.
Will your school report follow-up COVID-19 test results to the LCHD contact tracing team?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Close contacts are ineligible for Test to Stay Quarantine if the school does not share test results with the LCHD contact tracing team.
Are close contacts compliant in getting tested on Days 1,3,5, and 7 post exposure?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yes •No- Close contacts are ineligible for Test to Stay Quarantine if they refuse to follow the testing protocol and must be sent home to complete quarantine. Exceptions—testing may be adjusted accordingly if the close contact is identified five days or more from the date of exposure. When testing is not possible due to weekends or holidays, close contacts should be tested at the earliest opportunity.

Eligible for Test to Stay

If you answered yes to the questions on the prior page, the close contact is likely eligible for Test to Stay. If you are uncertain, for example, whether to apply Test to Stay for close contacts identified at exposures in higher risk activities like band, sports, or the school bus, please contact a LCHD Community Liaison for further guidance.

Please note: Test to Stay only applies for participation in school and school-related activities. Students or staff in Test to Stay **must quarantine** at home for 7 days when outside of the school or school-related activities.

Ineligible for Test to Stay

If you answered no to any of these questions, this exposure is ineligible for Test to Stay. Please provide close contacts preliminary quarantine recommendations.

The ideal quarantine period is 14 days from the last date of exposure.

A reduced option 10-day quarantine is allowable if close contacts can return to school and social distance a minimum of 3 feet and mask during days 11–14 post exposure. Students **may not** return to sports, other activities, or the school bus for 14 days if social distancing of 3–6 feet and mask wearing cannot be maintained.

The Lake County Health Department will consider 7-day quarantines for close contacts to return to school **on a case-by-case basis** for exposures at school or outside of school under specific circumstances. A school nurse or school point of contact **may not** authorize a 7-day quarantine, and the individual/parent must speak with LCHD contact tracers. Contact tracers will communicate the approved reduced quarantine to the school point of contact/nurse.

- The close contact or their guardian **must** respond to calls from contact tracers to get a 7-day quarantine approved by LCHD.
- Both the positive case and close contact need to have been masked at the time of exposure.
- The individual must be tested with a PCR test within the 48 hours (Day 6 or Day 7) prior to day 7 and provide the negative test result to the school nurse. Home tests and antigen tests are not approved for this purpose.

**Schools that are waiting on testing supplies prior to September 10th may permit families to use lab-based testing on day 1, 3, 5, and 7 provided the family can provide the testing results to the school within 48 hours. Home-based tests are not authorized for this purpose.*